

Brother Cassel with us this year. He gave us good practical talks on living themes in the church.

We have a good consecrated staff of workers, in Brethren Livengood, Teeter, Gillin, Hoover, Hildebrand and Baker, who were in attendance this year, and I believe all the ministers in the districts are deeply interested in the missionary work of the church, and doubtless will in the next year or two, introduce the Missionary Convention, or Bible school into their congregation.

Our Work in the City.—We are now engaged in continuous work in the mission, and while the attendance is not so large as I could wish, the interest is good. This is the first week, and we are not, of course, started yet. Teaching is pre eminently the thing needful here. In this "Nineveh" of the nineteenth century, there are probably more than the six score thousand, that so far as the Gospel is concerned, 'know not their right hand from their left.' Brethren, pray for us. Humble consecrated work, all in the NAME of JESUS; in patience bearing all things, in humility enduring all things, with divine grace teaching all things, without murmuring, is the way the Lord trod before us. Pray for us that God may give us the grace, humility, patience and power for His service in the field. We were glad to have Brother Cassel preach for us on New Years. Our Sunday School is good. We also have a live Junior King's Children Society, which meets each Sunday P. M.

We are very thankful to the friends who have so kindly remembered us with their good things for both soul and body. And also thank them for the things needful they have sent in the name of the Lord for the needy, i. e., eatables and clothing, which we will try to give out to those most in need, and surely the everlasting benediction of God's poor will rest upon the heads of their more fortunate brethren, who have remembered them in their distress. We have not tried to make the distribution of clothing or eatables, for the poor a prominent part of the work, but will apply all that may be sent us for that purpose, where it will, in our best judgment, do the most good, and be most appreciated. Brethren, we have some good, zealous, spiritual members here, with whom we have real feasts of good things in our Bible studies, which are prominent features of our work.

Christmas Service.—Our Christmas service passed off nicely. On Christmas eve the Sunday School children gave an entertainment, in which all did well, and then the children were treated to a modest sized sack of candy and nuts. The chickens and other good things that friends sent in for the Christmas dinner, was given out to the families belonging to the Sunday School, and to those whose children attend our school, which we thought a better way than giving a public dinner in the church, which would have entailed much labor, which owing to so much sickness, our workers could not bestow.

There has been much sickness in the city.

Sister Gibbons suffered from a very sore throat, being confined to the house for six weeks, but is now earnestly engaged in the work again; canvassing from house to house. This work brings some peculiar experiences, both instructive, and sometimes amusing, account of which she may give you a few items in the near future. Perhaps there is no better place on earth in which to develop real Christian grace, than in personal work among the "all kinds" of people found in Chicago. In my next, I will give you some of my personal experience.

We were made happy on the 25th inst. Brother H. R. Holsinger and wife came in on us, which was a happy surprise, for we were, I assure you, glad to have these faithful soldiers of God with us. They stopped over night with us, and attended service. We are sorry that his defective speech would not allow him to talk to us, but we enjoyed their presence and the visit with them, and felt a peculiar pleasure in having them attend the mission service, in which he is very much interested. He is working hard to finish his book, i. e., History of the Church, for which he has given his life labors. While he is quite feeble, yet appears stronger than when we met him at Johnstown Convention. They started on their long trip to California, from here, on the evening of the 26th. May God bless them and permit him to finish his work. All is peace. Brethren, pray for us.

J. O. TALLEY.

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THE MISSIONARY SPIRIT AND HOW TO EXERCISE IT—Concluded

MARTIN SHIVELY

He who gives cheerfully, as unto the Lord, will find himself blessed in the giving, and the world will be blessed in receiving the gospel. If we cannot give 50c. per year, we surely can give 1c. per month. Even this small amount, if contributed by all, would mean more than enough to support the missions we have already established. Pray for the work and the workers; but show your interest by giving as largely as you can, as unto Him who saves us. By so doing you shall be obedient to the Lord's command, "Go ye into all the the world, and preach the gospel to every creature," (Mark 16:15,) and shall have a share in the blessings which are promised for such an act.

A Plain Talk with my Brother Preacher. It matters little how we entered the ministry, whether we were elected by our Brethren, or if we sought the place and profession in which we are exercising, it still is true that we were called of God, but the call is universal. In entering upon the duties of the office we hold, we became the representatives of our Brethren to the people, and the ambassadors of Christ to the church, as well as to a sin-cursed world. In the former capacity it is our duty to faithfully serve our people, and to present the doctrines and practices of the church who are without, trying to bring them into the fold with us. We are to

be loyal to the church and all its interests, doing our utmost to increase her power and influence. But as ambassadors for Christ, our responsibility is much greater, for we must faithfully present all his teachings to the church, as well as unto the world, and must give answer to him at last for the manner in which we have exercised in the functions of our high office. I know with what zeal you have tried to discharge these duties, and how you have sacrificed in money, time, comfort and health, because I am your Brother. The way has had its rough places, and sometimes they have occurred with remarkable frequency. But after all, the way is not all rough. There are pleasant places, and many times we are made to rejoice that God has made it our duty to preach the gospel, and that our mercies outnumber our trials many-fold. But it is not of our trials nor of our successes that I want to talk; it is of our duties. We realize, at least in part, that ours is the most responsible position which man can occupy; for we are not only ambassadors for Christ, but are the makers of sentiment among and for the people. We are the leaders of men in religious thought and activities. If we preach much and pointedly on the question of temperance, our congregation becomes active in its opposition of the saloon. If we are supporters and admirers of our church paper, and let our feelings find voice in our sermons, our people will develop similar likes. If we are friends of our college, the friendship will not remain hidden, but it will win yet other friends for this and any other institution of whose cause we are a champion. True, our sentiments may not be at once reproduced, but fervency of spirit and a little tact will gradually bring our people to our way of thinking upon almost any question. If it is true in the things I have mentioned, it is equally true of the cause of missions. There is much reason why this matter ought to have our serious attention, and be much preached about, for you will readily recall from the scriptures that Christ's commands were very emphatic about it. We need not, no, we must not, overdo the question, and thus make ourselves and the cause obnoxious to the people. But if, in love, we present the facts, we can confidently look to God for the increase. The whole future of the Brethren church is in our hands. If it shall become great in numbers and influence, it shall be, because that we, under God, have developed such sentiments as shall be conducive to such an end. If it shall remain small and weak, the blame will be ours, because we shall not have done what we could. And this church, with its faith that we love, and for which we have willingly suffered some persecutions and not a few privations, shall become great and powerful for good only in proportion as we develop the missionary spirit in our people. And we shall have done our duty as ambassadors for Christ, only in proportion as we have labored to develop that spirit.

We are watchmen on the walls of Zion; and if thro our neglect, harm comes to our